OIPE JC159 JUN 21 2004 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Matter of the Application of: Easter, et al
Serial No.: 10/684358
Filed: 10/10/2003
For: **Retaining Ring For Use On A Carrier Of A Polishing Apparatus**
Examiner: Unknown Group Art Unit: 1765

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on June 18, 2004.

Glenda R. C. Gladfelter

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Sir:

An Information Disclosure Statement is submitted herewith pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.97-1.98. The enclosed statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of a national application, or within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR §1.491 in an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurs last.

Respectfully submitted,

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FORM PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	Complete if Known	
	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	**Application Number**	10/684358
		Filing Date	10/10/2003
		First Named Inventor	Easter, et al
		Group Art Unit	1765
		Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet 1 of 1		Attorney Docket Number	27757-901

JUN 21 2004 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date
	AA	6,224,472 B1	05/01/01	Lai, et al	451	398	06/24/99
	AB	US 2001/041521 A1	11/15/01	Quek	451	287	03/14/01
	AC	6,585,850	07/01/03	Kenji, et al	156	345.12	10/27/00
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						
	AR						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub-Class	TRNS Y/N
	AS	JP 2001121411	05/08/01	Abstract only (PAJ)	H01L 21	304	N
	AT	DE 201 11 766 U 1	11/07/02	DE	H01L 21	306	N
	AU	WO 01 89763 A	11/29/01	PCT	B2	4B	Y
	AV						
	AW						

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		
	AX	
	AY	
	AZ	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.